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TC 1700

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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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TRANSMITTAL  
FORM

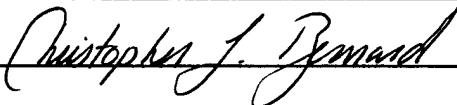
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	09/771,186
		Filing Date	01/29/2001
		First Named Inventor	KOOL, Lawrence Bernard
		Group Art Unit	1746
		Examiner Name	Smetana, Jiri, F.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	15	Attorney Docket Number	RD 28011 (3465)

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <b>Post Card Receipt</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

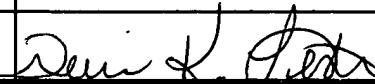
## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Christopher L. Bernard Reg. No.: 48,234 DOUGHERTY, CLEMENTS & HOFER
Signature	
Date	09/24/2002

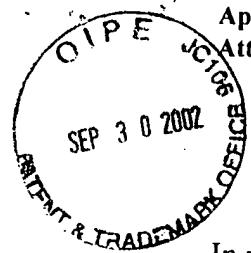
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Application No.: 09/771,186  
Attorney Docket No.: RD-28,011; 3465

PATENT

5/A  
3/H  
10/03/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of : KOOL, Lawrence Bernard  
Application No. : 09/771,186  
Filed : January 29, 2001  
Title : A METHOD FOR REMOVING OXIDES  
AND COATINGS FROM A SUBSTRATE  
Examiner : Smetana, Jiri F.  
Art Unit : 1746

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Washington, DC 20231

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

5 Dear Sir:

Prior to continued examination on the merits, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-referenced Application be amended as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

10

Please amend Claims 1 and 23 as follows, without prejudice or disclaimer to continued examination on the merits:

Sub C/P  
15 1. (Amended) A method for removing an oxide material from a surface of a substrate or a coating disposed on the substrate, comprising the step of contacting the oxide material with an aqueous composition which comprises an acid having the formula  $H_xAF_6$ , or precursors to said acid, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of Si, Ge, Ti, Zr, Al, and Ga; and x is 1-6.